

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Office Action mailed October 18, 2006 ("Office Action"), Applicant respectfully requests that the Office enter the amendments set forth above and consider the following remarks. By this response, claims 10 and 23 are amended, and claims 1, 3, 4, 6-9, 13, 14, 16, 17, 19-22, and 26-28 are canceled. After entry of this paper, only claims 10 and 23 will be pending in this application.

Double Patenting Rejection

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected all pending claims on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over specified claims of copending Application No. 09/544,795, these claims being believed to correspond to the claims of the now-issued U.S. Patent No. 7,085,839. The Examiner also rejected all pending claims on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over specified claims of copending Application No. 09/544,898, these claims being believed to correspond to the claims of the now-issued U.S. Patent No. 6,973,499.

Applicant submits herewith a terminal disclaimer under 37 C.F.R. §1.321(c) in response to the Examiner's double patenting rejection. By virtue of this disclaimer, Applicant respectfully submits that this double-patenting rejection has been overcome.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant appreciates the indication in the Office Action that claims 10 and 23 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant has hereby rewritten claims 10 and 23 in the manner indicated by the Examiner.

It is the intention of Applicant to allow the present application to proceed to issuance for the allowed subject matter, and to file a continuation application in which other issues raised by the Office Action are addressed.

CONCLUSION

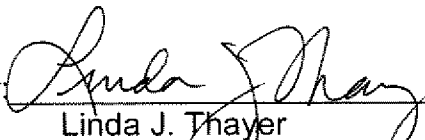
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that the pending claims are in allowable form, and respectfully request reconsideration of the rejections and timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our Deposit Account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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